

Amendments To The Claims

The listing of claims presented below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A suction muffler of a reciprocating compressor comprising:

a muffler body having a suction port connected to a refrigerant suction pipe, a discharge port, and a resonator;

a muffler base connected to the discharge port for inducing refrigerant discharged through the discharge port to flow into a cylinder; and

a flow controller disposed in the suction port for controlling and steadying flow of refrigerant into the suction port, said flow controller comprising:

a fixing member comprised of:

a main refrigerant path, embodied as a first hole having a center line and forming a cylinder having a circumferential surface, and extending through the fixing member;

a plurality of refrigerant sub-paths, each refrigerant sub-path embodied as a second hole having a corresponding center line and penetrating the fixing member, said second holes being located adjacent to the first hole and spaced around the first hole center line at predetermined intervals such that the second hole center lines are located on a geometric circle centered on the first hole center line; and

a cylindrical space with a diameter large enough to encircle the plurality of second holes, said cylindrical space being formed under the main refrigerant path hole and the plurality of refrigerant sub-path holes;

a movable member having a through hole that extends through the movable member, the through hole having a center line substantially coincident with the center line of the first hole in the fixing member, the movable member also having a plurality of second through holes formed at predetermined intervals on a geometric circuit having a diameter greater than the diameter of the geometric circle that encircles said plurality of refrigerant sub-paths, said movable member being disposed in the space of the fixing member to move between a first location that closes the plurality of refrigerant sub-paths and a second location whereat the plurality of refrigerant sub-paths are open,

the movable member further comprised of a guide having an outer circumferential surface sliding and touching the circumferential surface of the main refrigerant path, the guide formed with the first through hole, and a disk of a predetermined thickness with the outer circumferential surface sliding and touching the inner circumferential surface of the space, the disk formed with a plurality of through holes.; and

a resilient member resiliently supporting the movable member and biasing that member towards the second location..

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The suction muffler of a reciprocating compressor according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the movable member is supported by the suction pipe connected to the suction port, and rises and moves toward the first location when an excessive amount of refrigerant flows in.

5. (Currently amended) The suction muffler of a reciprocating compressor according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the resilient member is a compression coil spring disposed in the main refrigerant path.